



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Health Services

At its meeting held January 11, 2005, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“According to a recent article in the Daily News, the number of individuals infected with the contagious Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aurea (MRSA) has increased significantly in the jails as well as in the community at large.

“This Board’s concern for this matter has resulted in ongoing updates and progress reports of the Sheriff’s Department’s efforts to aggressively control the spread of MRSA in the jails. The Board received a positive progress report on this issue by Sheriff’s staff and Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding at the September 7, 2004 Board meeting. However, the subject article and comments by Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding infer that the increased number of MRSA infections in the community may be the result of inmates from the County jails.”

Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding, Director of Public Health, Chief Chuck Jackson, Sheriff’s Correctional Services, and Chief Charles Jackson, Sheriff’s Correctional Services answered questions posed by the Board.

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, the Board requested a joint report by the Sheriff and the Director of Health Services at the January 25, 2005 Board meeting which would provide the following:

1. An explanation on the concerns raised in the January 4, 2005 Daily News article regarding the increase in the number of individuals infected with the contagious Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aurea (MRSA) in the jails as well as in the community at large, including the factors contributing to the increased number of people infected with MRSA; and

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2. An update on the Sheriff's efforts to hire the Physician Specialist Epidemiologist and related medical staff to oversee this and other forms of communicable diseases.

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Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Administrative Officer
- County Counsel
- Director of Public Health

Letter sent to:

- Sheriff